

## Message Text

SECRET

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42

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY AF:TWSEELYE:NB

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/ MR. SEBASTIAN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 296388

NODIS

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, US, RH, MZ

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT MACHEL

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY  
TO PRESIDENT MACHEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I AM WRITING TO YOU BECAUSE OF THE DANGER WHICH NOW  
EXISTS OF A BREAKUP OF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE. THERE IS A  
GROWING SENSE OF UNREALITY ON THE PART OF SOME OF THE  
NATIONALIST DELEGATIONS WHO APPEAR TO BE DEMANDING  
IMMEDIATE TRANSFER OF POWER TO MAJORITY RULE BY THE  
RHODESIAN REGIME. NOT ONLY IS THIS UNREALISTIC BUT IT IS  
UN S I R A B L E. IT IS UNREALISTIC BECAUSE THE RHODESIAN  
WHITES WILL NEVER ACCEPT IT. IT IS UNDESIRABLE BECAUSE  
IT RISKS INSTABILITY THAT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE INTER-  
ESTS OF THE FRONT LINE STATES, AS WELL AS DESTROY ANY  
CHANCE OF SETTLEMENT. THERE HAS TO BE AN INTERIM STAGE  
WHICH INVOLVES POWER SHARING.

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OUR ASSESSMENT IS THAT SMITH AND THE RHODESIANS ARE

FULLY PREPARED TO FIGHT ON AND TO RESIST ALL FORMS OF

PRESSURE IF THEY DO NOT GET THE KIND OF SETTLEMENT AT  
GENEVA THAT THEY FEEL MEETS THEIR MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.  
SO THE NATIONALISTS AND THE FRONT LINE LEADERS MUST NOW  
DECIDE WHICH THEY PREFER: A LONG DRAWN-OUT WAR WHOSE  
CONSEQUENCES WILL BE A COUNTRY RAVAGED BY DESTRUCTION AND  
A WHOLE GENERATION OF YOUTH CHEWED UP IN NEEDLESS BLOOD-  
SHED, OR A MOVE TO MAJORITY RULE AND  
INDEPENDENCE FOR ZIMBABWE IN LESS THAN TWO YEARS -- WHICH  
CAN ONLY BE ACHIEVED BY MEANS OF GRADUAL AND ORDERLY  
TRANSITION.

I HOPE YOU WILL REFLECT ON THE ALTERNATIVES AND USE  
YOUR INFLUENCE TO MAKE THE GENEVA CONFERENCE A SUCCESS.

WARMEST REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INTERIM GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEGOTIATIONS, CAT-B  
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**Draft Date:** 06 DEC 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** saccheem  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PDEV, PSDC, MZ, RH, UK, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (MACHEL, SAMORA),  
**To:** MAPUTO  
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